

What is claimed is:

1. A method of producing an anti-reflection film, comprising:

selecting a first material having a reflective index of  $n_1$ ,  
coating the first material on a transparent substrate

5 having a reflective index of  $n_s$  to form a first layer having a thickness of  $d_1$ ,

selecting a second material having a reflective index of  $n_2$ ,

coating the second material on the first layer to form a second layer having a thickness of  $d_2$  so that an optical admittance  $Y$  at a surface of the second layer opposite to the 10 first layer is represented by,

$$Y = \frac{H}{E} = (x + iy)$$

where  $i$  is the imaginary number unit,

$$\begin{bmatrix} E \\ H \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\delta_2 & (i/n_2)\sin\delta_2 \\ in_2\sin\delta_2 & \cos\delta_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos\delta_1 & (i/n_1)\sin\delta_1 \\ in_1\sin\delta_1 & \cos\delta_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ n_s \end{bmatrix}$$

15  $\delta_1 = 2\pi n_1 d_1 / \lambda_0$

$$\delta_2 = 2\pi n_2 d_2 / \lambda_0$$

where  $\lambda_0$  is a wavelength of incident light in vacuum,

selecting a third material having a reflective index of  $n_3$ , and

20 coating the third material on the second layer to form a third layer having a thickness of  $d_3$ ,

wherein said reflective index of the transparent substrate, the reflective index and the thickness of the first layer, the reflective index and the thickness of the second layer, and the 25 reflective index of the third layer are selected so that  $x$  and  $y$  satisfy the following formula,

$$0.9 \times \{(n_3^2 - n_0^2)/2n_0\}^2 < \{x - (n_3^2 + n_0^2)/2n_0\}^2 + y^2 < 1.1 \times \{(n_3^2 - n_0^2)/2n_0\}^2$$

where  $n_0$  is a refractive index of an outer region at an outside of the anti-reflection film.

2. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to  
5 claim 1, wherein said third layer is formed so that an optical admittance  $Y_e$  at a surface of the third layer opposite to the second layer is represented by,

$$Y_e = \frac{H_e}{E_e}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E_e \\ H_e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_3 & (i/n_3) \sin \delta_3 \\ i n_3 \sin \delta_3 & \cos \delta_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_2 & (i/n_2) \sin \delta_2 \\ i n_2 \sin \delta_2 & \cos \delta_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_1 & (i/n_1) \sin \delta_1 \\ i n_1 \sin \delta_1 & \cos \delta_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ n_s \end{bmatrix}$$

10  $\delta_3 = 2\pi n_3 d_3 / \lambda_0$ ,

said thickness of the third layer being selected so that  $E_e$  is substantially equal to 1 and  $H_e$  is substantially equal to  $n_0$ .

3. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to  
15 claim 1, further comprising forming at least one additional  $j$ -th layer having a reflective index of  $n_j$  and a thickness of  $d_j$  on the transparent substrate before forming the first layer where  $j$  is a natural number at least 4 so that an optical admittance  $Y'$  at the surface of the second layer opposite to the first layer  
20 is represented by,

$$Y' = \frac{H'}{E'} = (x' + iy')$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} E' \\ H' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_2 & (i/n_2) \sin \delta_2 \\ i n_2 \sin \delta_2 & \cos \delta_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_1 & (i/n_1) \sin \delta_1 \\ i n_1 \sin \delta_1 & \cos \delta_1 \end{bmatrix} \dots \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_j & (i/n_j) \sin \delta_j \\ i n_j \sin \delta_j & \cos \delta_j \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ n_s \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\delta_j = 2\pi n_j d_j / \lambda_0$$

wherein said reflective index of the transparent substrate, the reflective index and the thickness of the first layer, the reflective index and the thickness of the second layer, the reflective index of the third layer, and the reflective index  
5 and the thickness of the at least one additional j-th layer are selected so that x' and y' satisfy the following formula,

$$0.9 \times \{(n_3^2 - n_0^2)/2n_0\}^2 < \{x' - (n_3^2 + n_0^2)/2n_0\}^2 + y'^2 < 1.1 \times \\ \{(n_3^2 - n_0^2)/2n_0\}^2$$

10 4. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to claim 3, wherein said third layer is formed so that an optical admittance  $Y'_e$  at the surface of the third layer opposite to the second layer is represented by,

$$Y'_e = \frac{H'_e}{E'_e}$$

$$15 \begin{bmatrix} E'_e \\ H'_e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_3 & (i/n_3) \sin \delta_3 \\ i n_3 \sin \delta_3 & \cos \delta_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_2 & (i/n_2) \sin \delta_2 \\ i n_2 \sin \delta_2 & \cos \delta_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_1 & (i/n_1) \sin \delta_1 \\ i n_1 \sin \delta_1 & \cos \delta_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \delta_j & (i/n_j) \sin \delta_j \\ i n_j \sin \delta_j & \cos \delta_j \end{bmatrix} \dots \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ n_s \end{bmatrix},$$

said thickness of the third layer being selected so that  $E'_e$  is substantially equal to 1 and  $H'_e$  is substantially equal to  $n_0$ .

20 5. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to claim 1, wherein said third layer has an attenuation coefficient of substantially zero.

25 6. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to claim 1, wherein said second layer has an attenuation coefficient more than 0.001 at a wavelength of 550 nm.

7. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to claim 1, wherein said second layer has an attenuation coefficient between 0.01 and 10 at a wavelength of 550 nm.

5 8. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to claim 1, wherein said transparent substrate is formed of a synthetic resin.

9. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to  
10 claim 1, wherein said second layer is formed of a composite material containing fine particles of at least one selected from the group consisting of metal, metal oxide and metal nitride.

10. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to  
15 claim 1, wherein said second layer is a thin film formed of at least one selected from the group consisting of metal, metal oxide and metal nitride.

11. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to  
20 claim 1, wherein said second layer has a thickness smaller than 30 nm.

12. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to  
claim 1, wherein said transparent substrate is formed of  
25 polyester.

13. A method of producing an anti-reflection film according to  
claim 1, wherein said transparent substrate has a thickness  
between 30 to 300  $\mu$ m.